

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 OES-03 COME-00

SAJ-01 AID-05 OMB-01 ACDA-05 /109 W

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P 271530Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8057

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USDEL EC PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 0538

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, VN, TS

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE AND WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS

REFS: STATE 17448, 8673, 10509, 12513

1. SUMMARY: GOT POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGED THAT IT
WILL ABSTAIN OR BE ABSENT WHEN PRG ISSUE ARISES. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF MADE DEMARCHE RE BOTH SUBJECT CONFERENCES
JANUARY 27 TO MME TNANI, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
AND CONFERENCES DIVISION, MOFA. EMBOFF RECALLED
EARLIER CONVERSTTIONS WITH TNANI CONCERNING FIRST
DIP CONF AND MAIL BALLOT WITH RESPECT TO WEAPONS EXPERTS
MEETING LAST AUTUMN, IN WHICH REGARD WE UNDERSTOOD GOT HAD
SIMPLY NOT RPT NOT REPLIED TO ICRC BALLOT. EMBOFF
EXPLAINED PROCEDURAL MATTERS DESCRIBED PARA 8 STATE 8673
AND URGED TNANI THAT GOT DELEGATE BE INSTRUCTED VOTE TO
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EFFECT THAT ISSUE ALREADY DECIDED AND SHOULD NOT BE

REOPENED. TNANI REPLIED ONLY THAT WELL-KNOWN GOT POSITION (ABSTENTION OR ABSENCE WHEN PRG ISSUE IS VOTED) IS FIRM. IMPLICATION WAS CLEAR THAT WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT RECORD VOTE BY GOT EVEN ON PROCEDURAL GROUNDS, BUT TNANI NEVERTHELESS TOOK NOTES AND FAVORABLE VOTE BY GOT CANNOT BE RULED OUT.

3. RE SEVENTH WMO CONGRESS, TNANI HAD NOT RPT NOT RECEIVED MAIL BALLOT. EMBOFF DESCRIBED BALLOT PER STATE 10509 AND 12513, INDICATING THAT WHILE WE DO NOT HAVE LIST OF OTHER ENTITIES BEING CONSIDERED FOR OBSERVER STATUS, PRESENCE OF SEVERAL ON SAME BALLOT MIGHT MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR GOT TO FAIL TO VOTE (AS ESTABLISHED BOT POSITION WOULD REQUIRE). EMBOFF URGED THAT IN RETURNING BALLOT, IF GOT DOES SO, IT REGISTER NEGATIVE VOTE ON PRG SO AS NOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE OF PRG BY DEFAULT AS DESCRIBED STATE 12513. MME TNANI UNDERTOOK TO EXAMINE BALLOT QUESTION CLOSELY, BUT MADE CLEAR THAT ANY GOT VOTE FOR OR AGAINST PRG OBSERVER STATUS IS MOST UNLIKELY.

4. AS BACKGROUND EMBOFF REFERRED TO CONTINUING USG CONCERN OVER PRG EFFORTS ENHANCE ITS APPEARANCE OF LEGITIMACY, ESPECIALLY NOW THAT BLATANT AGGRESSION FROM THEIR SIDE MAKES MOKERY OF PARIS AGREEMENT. EMBOFF LEFT COPY OF USG DIPLOMATIC NOTE OF JANUARY 11.

5. MME TNANI REPLIED TO DIRECT QUESTION SAYING SHE DID NOT KNOW OF ANY RECENT INITIATIVES BY FRIENDS OF PRG SEEKING GOT RECOGNITION.

6. TNANI CAPPED CONVERSATION WITH SMILE, SAYING EMBOFF HAD MISSED ONE CONFERENCE: WE WOULD BE GLAD TO KNOW SAME GOT POSITION IS FIRM WITH RESPECT ALSO TO PRG ATTENDANCE AT UNIDO MEETING NEXT JUNE.
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